

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for deciding whether a mobile station used by a subscriber is allowed to camp in a cell of a mobile communications system comprising location areas defined to be network-specific, the method comprising:

defining some of the location areas to be network-specific exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

receiving, via a cell, a request for location update which initiates a location update procedure for updating the subscriber's location to a new location area;

checking, irrespective of whether or not the subscriber has a list of special cells, during the location update procedure whether the new location area is an exclusive location area; and

if the new location area is an exclusive location area,

- determining whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell,
- allowing the mobile station to camp in the cell by accepting the location update if the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and
- preventing the mobile station from camping in the cell by rejecting the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, the method further comprising maintaining information about exclusive location areas in a network element configured to reject or accept location updates.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, the method further comprising:

maintaining information about location areas comprising exclusive cells by maintaining cell information indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell; and

using cell information to decide whether the location area is an exclusive location area.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, the method further comprising:
receiving an indication indicating whether the cell is an exclusive cell during location update; and
deciding on the basis of the indication whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein
the mobile communications system comprises local service areas;
the exclusive cells are exclusive access cells; and
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein
the mobile communications system comprises local service areas;
the exclusive cells are exclusive access cells;
the fact whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell is determined by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information; and
the method further comprising,
defining location service areas so that when an exclusive access cell belongs to a location service area, the other cells in that location service area are also exclusive cells;
maintaining information about location service areas comprising exclusive cells; and
using that information to decide whether the location area of the cell is an exclusive location area.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, further comprising
receiving the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and the subscriber's identification information during the location update.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, the method further comprising:

broadcasting the location area identity of the cell and the local service area information of the cell;

broadcasting an indication indicating that the cell is an exclusive access cell on a broadcast channel when the cell is an exclusive access cell;

when receiving the new location area identity and said indication in the broadcast in the mobile station,

- comparing the local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information stored in the mobile station; and

- if there is a match, camping in the cell by sending a location update request, or

- if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising rejecting the location update with the cause "roaming not allowed in this location area".

10. (Currently Amended) A method for deciding whether to trigger a location update by a mobile station used by a subscriber, the method comprising:

defining network-specific location areas so that all exclusive cells are in network-specific exclusive location areas comprising exclusive cells;

broadcasting a location area identity;

broadcasting an indication indicating that a cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to a location area comprising exclusive cells;

determining, in the mobile station, whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving a new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive cell in the broadcast; and

if camping is allowed, sending a location update request, or

if camping is not allowed, trying to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, entering a limited service state in the mobile station.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the mobile communications system comprises local service areas;

the exclusive cells are exclusive access cells; and
the method further comprises,
broadcasting local service area information;
comparing the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the
subscriber's local service area information in the mobile station in response to receiving a
new location area identity and the indication indicating an exclusive access cell in the
broadcast; and
if there is a match, sending a location update request, or
if there is no match, trying to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable
cell is not found, entering a limited service state.

12. (Currently Amended) A network comprising:
exclusive cells and other cells via which a mobile station may be connected to the
network,
network-specific location areas defining groups of cells, and
at least one mobile station which is arranged, in response to a new location area, to
send a location update request including the identity of the new location area and information
about the subscriber using it,
wherein
at least one of the location areas is defined to be [[an]] a network-specific exclusive
location area comprising at least one exclusive access cell, and
the network is arranged to access information about exclusive location areas and, in
response to a location update of a mobile station, to check, irrespective of whether or not the
subscriber has a list of special cells, whether the location area in the location update is an
exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the
cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

13. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 12, wherein
the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell and an
indication that the cell is an exclusive cell when the cell belongs to an exclusive location area,
and
the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity
and said indication, to determine whether the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell,

and if it is allowed, to send a location update request to the network, or if it is not allowed, to try to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

14. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 12, wherein the network comprises local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, and the network is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the subscriber's local service area information.

15. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 14, wherein the network is arranged to broadcast the location area identity of the cell, the local service area information of the cell and an indication that the cell is an exclusive access cell when the cell is an exclusive access cell, and

the mobile station is arranged, in response to receiving a new location area identity and said indication, to compare the broadcast local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information, and if there is a match, to send a location update request to the network, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

16. (Currently Amended) A network element in a mobile communications system taking part in location update procedures between the system and a mobile station, which system comprises location areas defined to be network-specific,

wherein

the network element is arranged to store or to have access to information about network-specific exclusive location areas comprising one or more exclusive access cells, ~~the exclusive location areas being location areas of the system~~, and, in response to a location update to a cell, to check, irrespective of whether or not the subscriber has a list of special cells, whether the location area to which the location update is targeted is an exclusive location area and if it is, to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell, and to reject the location update if the subscriber is not allowed to camp in the cell.

17. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 16, wherein the mobile communications system further comprises local service areas defining local services for subscribers via cells or a cell defined as belonging to a local service area, and wherein the network element is further arranged to receive information on the local service area of the cell and to check whether the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell by comparing the local service area information of the cell to the local service area information of the subscriber.

18. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 16, wherein the information about exclusive location areas comprises exclusive location areas having at least one cell which is in the area of the network element.

19. (Currently Amended) A mobile station which supports cell service definitions in a mobile communications system comprising location areas defined to be network-specific, the mobile station being arranged to receive broadcast information about a location area of the cell, and

to determine whether or not the subscriber is allowed to camp in the cell in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a network-specific location area comprising exclusive cells, and if the mobile station is allowed to camp in the cell, to send a location update request to the system, or if the mobile station is not allowed to camp in the cell, to try to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.

20. (Previously Presented) A mobile station according to claim 19, wherein the mobile communications system further comprises local service areas supporting local service area definitions, wherein

the cell service definitions supported by the mobile station comprise local service area definitions, and

the mobile station is arranged to receive broadcast information about local service areas of a cell and to perform the determining by comparing the local service area information of the cell with the subscriber's local service area information in response to receiving in the broadcast a new location area and an indication indicating that the cell belongs to a location area consisting of exclusive access cells and if there is a match, to send

a location update request to the system, or if there is no match, to try to find a suitable cell in which to camp and if a suitable cell is not found, to enter a limited service state.